

Summary of the February 7, 2025 Board of Governors Meeting

From: Jason Lisi, Board Secretary

Members: *Rajni Agarwal; Robert Amone; Dr. Claudine Cousins; David Elliott; Thomas Kehoe; Sunil Kumar; Robert Lamb; Pauline Mickelson; Michael Nitz; Dr. Leigh Potvin; Dr. Gillian Siddall; Anna Sampson; Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay; Mark Smith (Vice-Chair); Brent Sylvester; Simran Talpade; Cathy Tuckwell (Chair); Maria Vasanelli; Yolanda Wanakamik*

The Board of Governors held a regularly scheduled meeting on February 7, 2025 on the Thunder Bay Campus. The agenda, materials and minutes of the open Board meetings are available at www.Lakeheadu.ca.

OPEN MEETING

The following items of business were dealt with during the open meeting:

In Memorium

The Board Chair spoke in memory of Mr. Welter. Robert served on the Board of Governors from 1976-1991. The Board observed a moment of silence to honor Mr. Welter and to remember other beloved family members and friends who have passed.

Spotlight Presentation: Indigenous Access Programs, Lakehead University

Lisa Primavesi - Indigenous Access Programs Coordinator, Fionna Farquhar - Indigenous Transitions Program Coordinator, and Indigenous Access Program Students - Malakai Mawageesick (ITYP), and Haily-Arnaqjuaq (ISTEM) were invited to the Board meeting to highlight Lakehead's Indigenous Access Programs. The programs are post-secondary education pathways, offered without barriers, to Indigenous (First Nations, Metis or Inuit) high school and mature students and provide academic skills development and culturally informed events and activities.

Executive Committee

- Report of the January 17, 2025 meeting
- Policy Review: Extension of Term and Reappointment of the President
 - MOVED to approve the proposed amendments to the Extension of Term and Reappointment of the President policy, as circulated. CARRIED
- Policy Review: Board Secretary Position Description
 - MOVED to approve the proposed amendments to the Board Secretary Position Description, as circulated. CARRIED

Audit and Risk Committee

- Report of the January 17, 2025 meeting

External Relations Committee

- Report of the January 16, 2025 meeting

Finance and Operations Committee

- Report of the January 17, 2025 meeting
- Policy Review: Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures (SIPP), Lakehead University Pension Plan
 - MOVED to approve the proposed amendments to the Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures, Lakehead University Pension Plan, as circulated. CARRIED

Governance and Nominating Committee

- Report of the January 16, 2025 meeting
- Amendment to 2024-25 Board Meeting Schedule
 - MOVED to approve moving the in-person location of the March 27, 2025 Board meeting from Thunder Bay to Orillia/Barrie. CARRIED
- Policy Review: Board of Governors Nominations Process
 - MOVED to approve the proposed amendments to the Board of Governors Nominations Process, as circulated. CARRIED
- Policy Review: Board Standing Committee Operating Principles
 - MOVED to rescind the Board Standing Committee Operating Principles. CARRIED
- Terms of Reference Review: BGNC Terms of Reference
 - MOVED to approve the proposed amendments to the Board Governance and Nominating Committee Terms of Reference, as circulated. CARRIED
- Board Protocol Reminder: Requesting Information from the Administration
- Board Bylaw Amendments: Notice of Motion - In accordance with Article 12 of the Board Bylaws, the BGNC plans to bring forward a motion at the March 27, 2025 Board meeting, recommending the Board approve the proposed amendments to the Board Bylaws

Learning and Liaison Committee

- Report of the January 16, 2025 meeting

Human Rights Review Pool Appointments

- WHEREAS the Board of Governors approved the Human Rights Review Pool members at the November 24, 2022 for a period ending at the Annual Meeting in 2025; and

WHEREAS vacancies have arisen due to staffing changes;

MOVED that the following individuals be appointed to the Human Rights Review Pool, commencing immediately through to the close of the annual meeting in 2025 pursuant to paragraph 6 of the Human Rights Policy:

1. Aimee Jaun (replaces Hope Buset)

2. Joel Symonds (replaces Semie Sama)
CARRIED

Other Reports and Informational Items Received

- First Progress Report on Strategic Plan Year 7
- Overview of Amendments to the Lakehead University Human Rights Procedures
 - Revisions to the Procedures were made and approved by the Executive Team Working Group on January 28, 2025. These revisions were initiated as the result of a ministry directive by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.
- Ogimaawin Indigenous Education Council Report (of the December 3, 2024 meeting)
- Chair's Report
- President's Report on Appointments
 - External Adjunct Professors
 - Dr. Emmanuel Badewa was appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Natural Resources Management for the period November 1, 2024 to October 31, 2027
 - Dr. Viktoriia Batarchuk was appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Department of Chemistry for the period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2028.
 - Dr. Ahmed Bediwy was appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering for the period August 1, 2024 to July 31, 2028.
 - Dr. Curtis Berthelot was appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering for the period November 1, 2024 to October 31, 2028.
 - Dr. Mumtaz Cheema was appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Natural Resources Management for the period November 1, 2024 to October 31, 2027.
 - Dr. Kristen Lowitt was appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Department of Geography and the Environment for the period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2028.
 - Dr. Emily Smyk was appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Department of Geology for the period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2028.
 - Dr. John Gotwals was appointed as an Internal Adjunct Professor in the Department of Psychology for the period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2028.
 - Assistant Dean
 - Dr. Eltayeb Mohamedelhassan was re-appointment as Assistant Dean in the Faculty of Engineering for the period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027.
 - Lakehead University Research Ethics Board (REB)
 - Dr. Ben Maiangwa was appointed to the REB for the period January 1, 2025 to June 30, 2027.
 - February 2024 President's Report
 - Renewal of Chancellor Dr. Rita Shelton Deverell - It was reported that Chancellor Shelton Deverell has reached the end of her first term as Chancellor, and expressed interest in serving a second term. In accordance with the University Act, the Chancellor

Electoral Board (CEB) was established and met in early January. The CEB voted unanimously to re-elect Chancellor Shelton Deverell for a second term.

Business Arising from the In Camera Session

The following in camera item was reported in the minutes of the open meeting:

President's Report on Renewal and Tenure/Simultaneous Promotion to Associate Professor

Exercising the authority delegated by the Board of Governors, the President and Vice-Chancellor, granted Renewal and Tenure and Simultaneous Promotion to Associate Professor, to the following individuals, effective July 1, 2025:

Renewal of Probationary Appointments

- Dr. Davut Akca, Department of Interdisciplinary Studies
- Dr. Samim Al-Azad, Faculty of Business Administration
- Dr. Seung-Il Lee, Faculty of Natural Resources Management
- Dr. Keira Loukes, School of Outdoor Recreation, Parks & Tourism
- Dr. Debra Mackinnon, Department of Interdisciplinary Studies
- Dr. Joel Mohr, Faculty of Business Administration
- Ms. Larissa Speak, Bora Laskin Faculty of Law
- Ms. Robin Whitehead, Bora Laskin Faculty of Law

Tenure and Simultaneous Promotion to Associate Professor

- Dr. Amir Ameli, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Dr. Apparao Dekka, Department Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Dr. Maryam Ebrahimi, Department of Chemistry
- Dr. Ellen Field, Faculty of Education
- Dr. Sarah Olutola, Department of English
- Dr. Gary Pluim, Faculty of Education

IN CAMERA SESSION

An in camera session was held to discuss items of personnel, legal, or real estate nature, and other sensitive or confidential matters. The following items of business were dealt with during the in camera session:

Executive Committee

- In Camera Report of the January 17, 2025 meeting

External Relations Committee

- In Camera Report of the January 16, 2025 meeting
- Fellow of the University - The Board approved new nominees to be added to the Fellow Nominees List, for future consideration, as per the Board Fellow of the University Procedures and Guidelines

Finance and Operations Committee

- Budget and Enrolment Updates

Other Reports, Updates and Informational Items Received

- President's In Camera Report
 - Annual Report on Renewal and Tenure/Simultaneous Promotion to Associate Professor
- Chair's In Camera Report
- 2024-25 Board of Governors Meeting Schedule

The President's report on the annual renewal and tenure/simultaneous promotion to Associate Professor was reported in the minutes of the open meeting.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Governors is March 27, 2025 from 9:30am to 1:30pm (ET).